PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

state state of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Sheet

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known			
Application Number	10/624,981		
Filing Date	July 22, 2003		
First Named Inventor	Thomas A. Zdeblick		
Art Unit	3774		
Examiner Name	Paul B. Prebilic		
Attomey Docket Number	MSDI-168/PC566 02		

Examiner Cite Document Number			U. S. PATENT D	Name of Patentee or	er Donne Columna Linea Whom	
Initials*	Cite No.1	Number-Kind Code ^{2 (# known)}	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
		US-			•	
		US-				
		US-	-			
		US-				
		US-				
		US-		"		
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
	-	US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-	-			
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-	1 -1-			

			IGN PATENT DOCL		1	,
Examiner	Cite	Foreign Patent Document	Publication	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines,	
Initials*	No.1		Date	Applicant of Cited Document	Where Relevant Passages	ہ ا
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	<u>i </u>	Or Relevant Figures Appear	'
		WO 94/17759	08-18-1994	SPINE-TECH, INC		┢
			- 00 10 1001			⊨
				-		1
						┢
	<u> </u>		<u> </u>			┡

	 _	
Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.